IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 5, 6, 7, and 9 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A tone generator system which generates at least one musical tone in response to a channel by using a program number based on tone color changing instruction data designating a tone color of the corresponding channel which is stored in predetermined timing before a sounding instruction data, the tone color changing instruction data including a channel number and a corresponding program number, and the sounding instruction data including the channel number, comprising:

a first waveform storage that stores compressed waveform data, each of the stored compressed waveform data being readable based on the corresponding program number;

a second waveform storage;

a supplying section that supplies the tone color changing instruction data derived from musical composition data to be reproduced, and then supplies the sounding instruction data derived from the musical composition data to be reproduced;

a decoder that is responsive to the tone color changing instruction data ~~included in musical composition data to be reproduced~~ supplied from said supplying section, for reading out from said first waveform storage the compressed waveform data ~~corresponding to at least one tone color corresponding to~~ based on the program number included in the supplied tone color changing instruction data, [[and]] for decoding the readout compressed waveform data into waveform data in a pulse code modulation format, and for storing the decoded waveform data in the pulse code modulation format into said second waveform storage, each of the stored decoded waveform data being readable based on the corresponding channel number;

~~a second waveform storage that stores the waveform data in the pulse code~~

~~modulation format decoded by said decoder;~~ and

a tone generator section[[,]] that is responsive to the sounding instruction data ~~included in the musical composition data to be reproduced~~ supplied from said supplying section, for reading out from said second waveform storage the waveform data in the pulse code modulation formation, based on the channel number included in the supplied sounding instruction data, and for generating musical tones based on the readout waveform data in the pulse code modulation format ~~stored in said second waveform storage~~.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) A tone generator system according to claim 1, wherein said second waveform storage is capable of storing waveform data inputted by a user.

4. (Original) A tone generator system according to claim 1, wherein said decoder is capable of decoding compressed audio stream data inputted from an external device.

5. (Currently Amended) A tone generating method which generates at least one musical tone in response to sounding instruction data relating to a channel by using a program number based on tone color changing instruction data designating a tone color of the corresponding channel which is stored in predetermined timing before the sounding instruction data, the tone color changing instruction data including a channel number and a corresponding program number, and the sounding instruction data including the channel number, comprising:

supplying the tone color changing instruction data derived from musical composition data to be reproduced, and then supplying the sounding instruction data derived from the musical composition data to be reproduced;

reading out from a first waveform storage compressed waveform data ~~corresponding to at least one tone color corresponding to~~ based on the program number included in the supplied tone color changing instruction data, ~~included in musical composition data to be reproduced and~~ decoding the readout compressed waveform data into waveform data in a pulse code modulation format, and storing the decoded waveform data in the pulse code modulation format into a second waveform storage, in response to the supplied tone color changing instruction data, each of the compressed waveform data stored in the first waveform storage being readable based on the corresponding program number, and each of the decoded waveform data stored in the second waveform storage being readable based on the corresponding channel number; ~~storing in a waveform storage the waveform data in the pulse code modulation format;~~ and

reading out from the second waveform storage the waveform data in the pulse code modulation format, based on the channel number included in the supplied sounding instruction data, and generating musical tones based on the readout waveform data in the pulse code modulation format ~~stored in the waveform storage~~, in response to the supplied sounding instruction data ~~included in the musical composition data to be reproduced~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon a program for executing a tone generating method ~~stored in a storage medium readable by a computer~~ which generates at least one musical tone in response to sounding instruction data relating to a channel by using a program number based on tone color changing instruction data designating a tone color of the corresponding channel which is stored in predetermined timing before the sounding instruction data, the tone color changing

instruction data including a channel number and a corresponding program number, and the sounding instruction data including the channel number, the program comprising:

a supplying module for supplying the tone color changing instruction data derived from musical composition data to be reproduced, and then supplying the sounding instruction data derived from the musical composition data to be reproduced;

a decoding module for reading out from a first waveform storage compressed waveform data ~~corresponding to at least one tone color corresponding to~~ based on the program number included in the supplied tone color changing instruction data, ~~included in musical composition data to be reproduced~~ and decoding the readout compressed waveform data into waveform data in a pulse code modulation format, and storing the decoded waveform data in the pulse code modulation format into a second waveform storage in response to the supplied tone color changing instruction data, each of the compressed waveform data stored in the first waveform storage being readable based on the corresponding program number, and each of the decoded waveform data stored in the second waveform storage being readable based on the corresponding channel number; ~~and~~

~~a waveform storing module for storing in a waveform storage the waveform data in the pulse code modulation format decoded by said decoding module;~~ and

a tone generator module for reading out from the second waveform storage the waveform data in the pulse code modulation format, based on the channel number included in the supplied sounding instruction data, and generating musical tone[[s]] data based on the readout waveform data in the pulse code modulation format ~~stored in the waveform storage~~, in response to the supplied sounding instruction data ~~included in the~~

~~musical composition data to be reproduced~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The tone generating method according to claim 5, further comprising storing waveform data inputted by a user in [[a]] the second waveform storage.

8. (Previously Presented) A tone generating method according to claim 5, wherein the compressed waveform data is compressed audio stream data inputted from an external device.

9. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 6, ~~further including a second waveform storing module capable of storing~~ wherein the second waveform storage stores waveform data inputted by a user.

10. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 6, wherein the decoding module is capable of decoding compressed audio stream data inputted from an external device.

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